





DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>For unto us a child is born</p>						
1 Pre-Worship & Prayer Time 10:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	2 Breakaway Adult Care 9:30 AM The Open Gate	3 Kids Club 6:00 PM GPV	4 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM at The Open Gate Mid Week Prayer Time 7:30-9:00 PM The Open Gate	5 Prayer Time 6:30-7:30 AM The Open Gate	6	7
8 Pre-Worship & Prayer Time 10:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM SS Christmas Program Sandwich and Sweets luncheon to follow	9 Breakaway Adult Care 9:30 AM - The Open Gate Book Club (Ladies) 7:00 PM - The Open Gate Book Club (Men) 7:00 PM - Bob Jonse's	10 Elders Meeting 7:30 PM The Open Gate 6:00 PM - Last kids Club until the New Year	11 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM - The Ching's <i>Last study until the New Year</i> Mid Week Prayer Time 7:30-9:00 PM The Open Gate	12 Prayer Time 6:30-7:30 AM The Open Gate	13 <i>Final Parents and Tots until the Jan. 10th</i> 9:30-11:30 AM The Open Gate	14
15 Pre-Worship & Prayer Time 10:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	16 Last Breakaway Adult Care until New Year (Jan. 6 th) 9:30 AM The Open Gate	17	18 Lasagna Supper sale at The Open Gate 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Mid Week Prayer Time 7:30-9:00 PM - The Open Gate	19 Prayer Time 6:30-7:30 AM The Open Gate	20	21
22 Pre-Worship & Prayer Time 10:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM SS Christmas Program - Sandwich and Sweets luncheon to follow	23	24 <i>Family Christmas Eve Service G.P. Vanier 6:00 PM</i>	25	26	27	28
29 Pre-Worship & Prayer Time 10:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM	30 Breakaway Adult Care 9:30 AM The Open Gate	31	  			

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THIS MONTH'S MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE AT FALL RIVER CHAPEL for your offerings of time, resources and financial gifts for the Sunday Suppers and the Drop-in. Your partnership is essential to making ARK a place of mercy and love, a place to call home.

ARK

IT IS DEEPLY SATISFYING TO SCOOP AND SERVE STEAMY BOWLS OF HEARTY BEEF STEW FOR SUPPER. OUTSIDE THERE'S A SHARP WIND. INSIDE THE LIGHTS ARE ON, BREAD IS ON THE TABLE, THE ROOM IS BRIGHT AND WARM.

AT THE DROP-IN, WE DAILY LOOK FOR GOODNESS AND NURTURE HOPE BELIEVING THIS PROMISE TO BE TRUE: THE HUNGRY WILL BE FILLED WITH GOOD THINGS.

IN THE BACK CORNER A YOUNG MUSICIAN PLAYS THE BANJO. WAKENED BY THE MUSIC, ANOTHER YOUTH, AT FIRST IRRITATED, FEELS SURPRISINGLY SOOTHED BY HIS SOULFUL SONG—A BANJO HYMN STILLING ALL OF US.

Music and food,
beauty and art,
new friendship,
fresh socks,
boots that fit just right,
a hot shower,
a couch to curl up on,
kindness



*"The morning light
from heaven
will shine on us—
to guide us
to the path of
peace."
Zechariah*

None of this eliminates the pain, tragedy and abandonment.
A hot bowl of stew cools off quickly in this wild world.
A soulful song is easily drowned out.

Deeply scarred, struggling, confused—our souls long for purpose, for love, for good things. We are hungry--hungry for so much more than soup. Hungry for change, for belonging, for community, identity, happier memories, release from anger and sorrow.

During this Advent we are inspired by the words of Mary's song--God fills the hungry with good things. Mary was open to nurture the unexpected arrival of the Son of the Most High. She did not know what her willingness would mean. She believed and hoped that her commitment had significance for the future, for generations to come.

And so, with Mary, we choose to believe. We practice goodness, nurture hope, and trust that in sharing the journey together we will find hope for the future.

SUNDAY SUPPERS continues to grow as a community--we are celebrating our 28th Christmas together this year. Each week 200 guests and many faithful volunteers gather to share the meal and each other's company. More women and children have been coming for dinner than in earlier years when many of our guests were single men—families are facing hard economic times.

The foot clinic, run by Dalhousie medical students, physicians and nurses, is set up each week blessing our guests with professional, spa-like care for their tired feet. We also are thankful to have MOSH, a team of community outreach nurses, visit each week to offer health care to our guests.

We are deeply thankful for the rich table we have shared together each week over the many years. So much to celebrate.

DAILY LIFE AT THE DROP-IN is lively and full. Dorothy, Emily and Katie are deeply honoured to be in the midst of it all, walking alongside our community, challenged to continue the journey with courage and hope.

Hot, homemade meals are prepared each day of the week for 30-35 youth. Donations of food items throughout the year help to keep our pantry shelves well supplied. Items we can always use: peanut butter, pasta and pasta sauce, rice, canned soup and meats, coffee, toilet paper, butter, canned milk, fresh or frozen meat (hamburger, chicken, ham, etc.)

Items ARK needs for people throughout the winter months and for Christmas:

Men's long-johns, sizes S-M-L), hoodies and sweaters, backpacks, wool and cotton socks, quality footwear—men's sizes 10-12, blankets, warm/compact sleeping bags, gift cards—Sobeys, Superstore, Tim Horton's, Walmart, Subway, Movie passes (including tax), Bus tickets, Nail clippers

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR FUNDRAISER

Bundle up and walk for **ARK** on **February 22, 2014**.

Invite friends, neighbours, and co-workers to join your team to walk the Coldest Night of the Year, a 5&10km walk hosted in 60 communities across Canada. Sign up to walk and raise money for ARK at www.coldestnightoftheyear.org

For more information about ARK visit www.arkoutreach.com
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